To Apply to the Rutgers Gifted Education Certificate Program

NEW STUDENTS

- You must have earned a bachelor’s degree (BA/BAc) from an accredited college or university. Please request an official copy of your transcript from your undergraduate institution.
- You will need a professional or academic letter of recommendation.
- Visit the Graduate Admissions website at graduate.rutgers.edu/apply/online to apply online.

CONTINUING STUDENTS

- Students who have already begun the program should contact
- Secure a special permission number by emailing giftededucation.rutgers.edu
- Then log in the Rutgers Online Admissions System

Other Public Gifted Education Offerings

- CONFERENCE - Each November, the Rutgers Gifted Education Conference showcases our certificate faculty, an exceptional group of experts drawn from universities across the country. This annual event offers workshops and presentations for both experienced and novice gifted education administrators, educators, and counselors.

SPECIAL TOPICS - Beginning in January, 2016, we will offer "Special Topics" courses on timely issues or trends in gifted education. These focused shorter courses, which carry 1.5 credits, may be of particular interest to certificate graduates, educators, administrators, and counselors who may not be able to commit to the full certificate series, or individuals with a particular interest in a specific topic.

More information on all our gifted education programs is available at gifteded.rutgers.edu/Info.

Bring Rutgers to Your District!

- CERTIFICATE SERIES - If you have at least 20 participants from one or more districts, we can contract with your district to deliver the full certificate program in hybrid format at your site.
- CONSULTING SERVICES - Our expert certificate faculty can provide consulting on program design, development, implementation, and evaluation of your faculty professional development.
- CUSTOM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - Our expert faculty and consultants can develop and deliver at your site, online, or hybrid format.
OVERVIEW
Gifted and talented children deserve an education appropriate to their needs and talents — and our society stands to benefit greatly from the contributions these individuals can make. Yet, in an era of budgetary shortfalls and funding cuts, the needs of these very able students may not receive the attention that they merit.

In New Jersey, school districts meet the challenges of educating the gifted through the Gifted Education Graduate Certificate Program, designed by faculty at Rider University. For K-12 educators, resource specialists, counselors and administrators, this self-paced, online professional development program provides the knowledge and skills to nurture the unique makeup of gifted learners. Participation in the Certificate program is an excellent way to enhance your professional development.

AUDIENCE

The exceptional program is designed for professionals with bachelor’s degrees (B.S., B.A., B.S.A., etc.) who seek graduate-level professional development in gifted education. The series is particularly recommended for:

- Classroom teachers
- School and district administrators
- Gifted program directors and coordinators
- Counselors and related staff members
- Librarians and educational resource specialists
- Parents who homeschool their children

PROGRAM

Offered in an online, asynchronous format, the 12-credit certificate series consists of four courses and culminates in a final project. Participants can choose to complete one or more courses without committing to the full 12-credit certificate program. However, participants who complete the initial four courses may then apply the credits toward the certificate.

COURSES

Certificate courses are designed to address the teacher preparation standards in gifted and talented education and the Advanced Standards in Gifted Education Teacher Preparation developed by the National Association for Gifted Children (T-NCSC) for the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), and the Association for the Gifted (T-ATG). Please visit gifted-ed.rider.edu to see listings of specific standards addressed by individual courses.

THE GIFTED CHILD

Understanding the unique nature of the gifted child is the foundation of services and programs designed to meet their needs. This course will introduce you to the characteristics of the gifted child and address the social, emotional, and educational needs of these learners.

THE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF GIFTED CHILDREN

The course will provide an overview of the social and emotional development of gifted children, including issues related to isolation, stereotype, and the impact of giftedness on self-concept and identity. Participants will explore strategies for addressing the social and emotional needs of gifted children in the classroom and beyond.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION FOR THE GIFTED

This course is designed to provide educators with the knowledge and skills needed to develop appropriate curriculum and instruction for gifted learners. Participants will learn about the importance of differentiated instruction, the use of enrichment and acceleration strategies, and the role of the gifted education specialist in creating and implementing successful programs for gifted students.

RESEARCH AND BEST PRACTICES

This course is designed to help educators understand current research and best practices in the field of gifted education. Participants will learn about the latest research on giftedness, including the impact of giftedness on self-esteem, peer relationships, and academic performance, and will explore strategies for applying this research in their classrooms.

For more information, visit gifted-ed.rider.edu/info or call 609-922-7464.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the Gifted Education Graduate Certificate Program are well-prepared to pursue careers in schools, universities, and other educational settings. They may work as gifted education specialists, curriculum coordinators, or school counselors, or they may pursue careers in research, policy development, or advocacy for gifted education. Many graduates also choose to continue their education by pursuing advanced degrees in gifted education or related fields.
FACULTY MEMBERS

**ELISSA F. BROWN** Dr. Elissa Brown, a distinguished lecturer and director of the Hunter College Gifted Center, was previously the director of teacher and leader education programs and gifted education at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. From 2002-2007, Dr. Brown was the director of the Center for Gifted Education at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. She has served as a state director of gifted education, a federal grant manager, a district gifted program coordinator, principal of a specialized high school, and a teacher of gifted students. As a professor, Dr. Brown coordinates and teaches the Advanced Certificate Program in Gifted & Talented at Hunter College and has served as an adjunct professor at several universities, including Rutgers and Duke University. She is a published author in the field of gifted education and presents widely.

**JEANNE PURCELL** Dr. Jeanne Purcell is an education specialist whose career spans 30 years as a public school teacher, administrator, and research scientist at The University of Connecticut. Areas of specialization include: curriculum development; Common Core State Standards; leadership; differentiated instruction; effective instruction, especially as it relates to secondary school settings; and planning, monitoring and sustaining educational initiatives. She is the author of eight books and has published many articles that have appeared in Educational Leadership, Educational and Psychological Measurement, National Association of Secondary School Principals’ Bulletin. Our Children: The National PTA Magazine, Gifted Child Quarterly, Parenting for High Potential, and The Journal for the Education of the Gifted.

**LENORE CORNINA, FACULTY DIRECTOR.** Dr. Lenore Cornina coordinates the gifted education certificate faculty, oversees curriculum quality and currency, and teaches gifted education courses for Rutgers. She is also the owner/director of Ingeny Academy Talent Center, LLC, a private supplemental gifted education center in Flemington, N.J. Dr. Cornina brings significant school district experience to the certificate program, having served as supervisor of instruction and teacher of the gifted and talented (K-8) for Delaware Township School and as an elementary teacher for the Flemington-Raritan School District. She earned her doctorate in K-12 School Administration at Seton Hall University, focusing her dissertation research on gifted education, and holds a sixth year diploma in gifted education from the University of Connecticut.

**JANICE ROBBINS** Dr. Janice Robbins has devoted her career to the education of gifted children, serving as university instructor, author, teacher, and researcher. At the College of William and Mary she has served as Interim Director of the Center for Gifted Education and is an instructor in the graduate program. She currently directs a gifted curriculum research and development project. Prior to her work at the College; she was curriculum chief for the worldwide Department of Defense (DODFA) schools and the coordinator of their gifted and talented program. In Fairfax County Public Schools, VA, she served as principal of two schools for highly gifted students as well as the coordinator of the district gifted program. Dr. Robbins earned her Ph.D. in Educational Research and Evaluation from Virginia Tech.

**ALICIA COTABISH** Dr. Alicia Cotabish is the Gifted Education Program Coordinator at the University of Central Arkansas. Previously, she served as one of two principal investigators of STEM Starters and the program coordinator of the Arkansas Evaluation Initiative in Gifted Education (AEI), both federally-funded Jacob K. Javits projects housed at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is the Immediate Past-President of the Arkansas Association of Gifted Education Administrators and serves on the board of the Council for Exceptional Children – The Association of the Gifted (CEC-TAG). She has authored and co-authored 4 books and more than 50 journal articles, book chapters, and scholarly reports, and consulted on gifted education in all 50 states and around the world. As the Executive Director of the Center for Gifted Education at The College of William and Mary, she developed a graduate program and a research and development center in gifted education. She also initiated and directed the Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University. Prior to her work in higher education, Dr. VanTassel-Baska served as the state director of gifted programs for Illinois, as a regional director of a gifted service center in the Chicago area, and as coordinator of gifted programs for the Toledo, Ohio public school system. Dr. VanTassel-Baska holds B.A., M.A., M.Ed., and Ed.D. degrees from The University of Toledo. Dr. VanTassel-Baska developed the curriculum for the Rutgers Gifted Education Certificate Program, and continues with the program as consultant and conference keynote speaker.

For more information, please visit gifted.rutgers.edu/info or contact us at gifteded@docs.rutgers.edu or 848/932-7565
# 2016 Course Schedule

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<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Elissa Brown</td>
<td>The Gifted Child</td>
<td>January 19</td>
<td>March 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Alicia Cotabish</td>
<td>The Social &amp; Emotional Development of Gifted Children</td>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>May 6</td>
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<td>Dr. Jeanne Purcell</td>
<td>Curriculum &amp; Instruction for Gifted</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>July 1</td>
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<td>Dr. Janice Robbins</td>
<td>Gifted Program Development</td>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>September 2</td>
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<td>Dr. Lenore Cortina</td>
<td>Clinical Placement &amp; Practicum</td>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>December 16</td>
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*Note: Some courses may require synchronous online “meetings” – please check the website at gifted.rutgers.edu/info for more information.*

## Joyce Vantassel-Baska Scholarship

The Joyce Vantassel-Baska Endowed Scholarship fund was established in November, 2014 to honor Dr. Vantassel-Baska’s pivotal role in establishing the Rutgers Gifted Education Certificate Program, and to provide financial support to K-12 educators participating in the Rutgers certificate program.

**Applications.** Certificate participants may apply for this scholarship, September 1 through November 1, 2015 at gifted.rutgers.edu/scholarship. Scholarship award[s] will be announced at the November 19 Gifted Education Conference.

**Donations.** Donations to the Joyce Vantassel-Baska Endowed Scholarship fund may be made by check, payable to the Rutgers University Foundation, with a memo note “for the Joyce Vantassel-Baska Scholarship,” and mailed to the Rutgers University Foundation, Accounting Department, 120 Albany Street, Suite 201, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901.

For more information, please visit gifted.rutgers.edu/info or contact us at gifteded@docs.rutgers.edu or 848/932-7565.